**Thoughts behind each presentation to create coherence and works towards the same goal**

**Title: training for local IP Partners here at ILRI**

**Date: 18-22 March 2012**

**Venue: Info-centre breakout room**

**Objectives:**

1. To create networks among the Technical Groups of each IP members and also across the sites
2. To create an environment for experience sharing among the three sites through drawing of lessons from last year’s joint action for better planning of this year’s joint action
3. To create better understanding on roles and responsibilities among the Technical Groups and also create better understanding of ILRI’s aim of devolving roles for local actors
4. To create better understanding among the local facilitators and their supervisors
5. To build the capacity of the Technical Group members of each IP around facilitation and participatory research approach

**Day 1: Morning session** will mainly focus on well coming all training participants, introducing all and create good training environment for trainees. **Beth/Aberra** will make brief presentation on NBDC program and N2 project and take them through the IP process so that all trainees will be on equal understanding of what the project is all about and its aim around RWM strategies, institution and policies. After tea/coffee break we have the local facilitators from each site to make a 20 minute brief presentation on the last year joint action on fodder mainly on the lessons, challenges and achievements. NBDC contact persons (**Zelalem, Gerba and Aberra** should support them to prepare their presentation on Power Point). This aims to share experiences among the three sites and also aims to draw lessons from last year’s joint action to improve this year’s joint action plan.

We have special gusts of heads of the three local NGOs from their head office of Addis Ababa going to participate only morning session that aims to provide them an idea of what the project aims at and how it works at the site level. We believe that they will get more understanding of what has been achieved in their respective sites while their staff presenting the last year joint action and what roles their assigned local staffs have been played as a facilitator so that they will recognize what support should be required from the head office. This will create some of the miss understanding occurred in last year between the head and the local facilitators at the site and also it will give an opportunity to acknowledge the works of the local facilitators on this project.

During tea/coffee and lunch time we hope more networking among the three sites and more experience sharing will happen through informal conversation and it is better if we NBDC team, as we know most of the across the site, make sure that we introduce them together and probe some question for this to happen.

**Day 1: Afternoon session** will start by brief presentation of the action plan developed for this year to be presented by the University assigned contact persons. (**Zelalem, Gerba and Aberra** should support them to prepare their presentation on Power Point). Each will take 20 minute to present the action plan developed for each site and followed by reflection session where we ask specific questions to make sure the following is addressed in the action plan development:

* The feasibility of the plan within the period of NBDC (end of December)
* To what extent it addresses the lessons from the last year from each site and across the three sites
* To what extent it addresses landscape scale issue (last year intervention was small scale and may be a strategy for this year on how to scale it within the larger watershed)

Then after coffee break **Zelalem** will give training on IP facilitation. These training will focus on how to address the common issues that we face during the IP process which are identified so far from this project and other similar projects in all kinds of IP/LPA and with tips on how to make it effective. The IP process issues will have two main issues and these are issues around the IP meeting itself and issues around IP’s joint action/action research. This IP facilitation session will deal around issues raised on the morning session and it will respond to the challenges each IP’s faced. It will be more participatory like a question will be asked “what is effective meeting means for you?” so that trainees will express their response. In the end we will present the ILRI’s aim to devolve the role of facilitation to the local facilitators and what arrangements and new assignments are made to make this happen. Ideas will be collected and build by the participants about how to sustain IP’s beyond NBDC. This can be done by group work by letting the TG members of each site to work on their own site to come up with a strategy or ideas on how they will sustain IP’s beyond December 2013 and present it to plenary.

**Day 2: Morning session. Beth** will mainly start by giving the trainees a theoretical background about Action Research in general and explain the purpose behind IP’s joint action or pilot intervention for learning through process. Beth will then give a brief presentation on our previous experience in community engagement activities and these can include the PV, WAT-A-GAME, other tools and share the main results from those works. We want the trainees to understand the different community engagement practices and the importance of putting communities first to lead on the action research.

**Gerba** will follow his training on selected PRA tool that are important for the trainees around the fodder intervention joint action. Gerba will focus on selected PRA tool that will help them mainly around better community engagement in their planning and implementation of their action research. The trainees will practice the tools through group work and reflect their findings on plenary session.

Then **Gezahegn** from Holeta ARC will follow his presentation around FRG and experience of Holeta in FRG. This is mainly important for the trainees if they can consider the farmers involved in the pilot intervention as farmers’ research group where different varieties of improved fodder grasses and trees will be introduced at different levels so that farmers to farmers technology transfer will be promoted in the future to scale up to other farmers within the watershed and within the woreda.

**Dr Kindu** will share an experience of Kabe Watershed through UNEP project with regard to challenges and achievements done around free grazing. The trainees will have an exposure to the experience of Kabe and draw lessons for their consideration of their pilot intervention on fodder.

**Day 3** will be a field visit to Holeta ARC’s FRG sites, follow up on Gezahegn’s presentation on FGR. The trainees will visit the site to see what has been achieved with FRG approach on the ground and prove it though a discussion with farmers involved.